

AZANIA COMBAT

No 4

- Service, Sacrifice and Suffering -

1971

RAISING PAC ARMY INSIDE S.A.

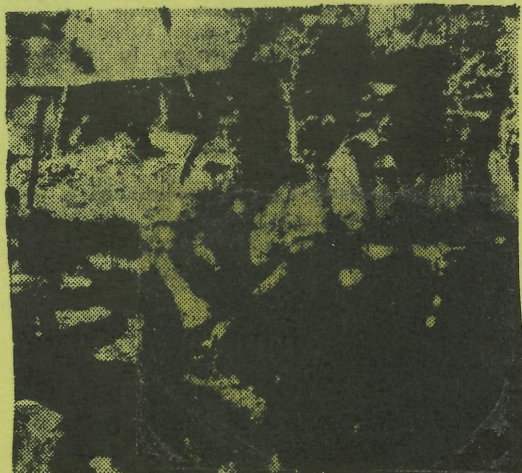
- Court told

The Orange Free State province of South Africa can no longer be regarded as near-virgin territory in terms of contemporary armed resistance to the apartheid regime. In Bloemfontein, the capital, six men were brought before the regional court on September 8, this year, and accused of participating in a recruiting campaign for youths to undergo military training abroad under the direction of a cell of the Pan Africanist Congress in Welkom, the central town of the Free State goldfields. The men are also accused of collecting money to be used for sending the youths to P.A.C. bases in independent African states, according to reports in the Zambia Daily Mail, Nairobi East African Standard and the London Times, on September 9, 1971.

Not since the massive arrests of freedom fighters alleged to be transiting through the Orange Free State on their way from the National Headquarters of the Pan Africanist Congress in Maseru, Lesotho, in 1963, has there been such a crack-down on the underground liberation movement in the province. The six men are from a group of dozens of Africans who were arrested and detained under the notorious Terrorism Act last May.

The alleged "subversive" activities of this group are a serious blow for the South African apartheid regime because amongst them are former students of the "model" apartheid Bantu College of Turfloop for Sotho speakers in the Northern Transvaal. Some worked as "urban Bantu councillors", social workers and clerks in

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EDITORIAL

The REAL S.A. Stands UP!

- *Six on trial for 'supporting' PAC army*
- *Mystery suicide of detainee*
- *14 on trial for their lives*
- *5 years for the Dean*

Over the past few months the South African apartheid regime has mounted an all out diplomatic offensive calculated to confuse international public opinion, undermine the national liberation movement and gain respectability for its universally condemned racist laws. In the wake of the exchange of official visits between Vorster and Banda - the visit of an Ivory Coast delegation to South Africa - the tour of West European countries by Bantustan chiefs - empty promises of "political rights for Africans in their own areas" and a host of other diplomatic ploys launched to sell Vorster's sinister "outward looking policy" - there has grown a tendency, particularly in the bourgeois press, radio and television, to push to the background the true plight of the Africans and other people struggling for a genuinely non-racial and democratic society in Azania. But thanks to the instruments that are used by the regime to safeguard South Africa's cruel way of life, the police and courts of law, as 1971 draws to a close the REAL South Africa is standing up as menacingly as ever to expose Vorster's sham change of heart.

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Editorial (Cont.)

In Pretoria the Fascist Judge, Cillie, shamelessly found the Dean of Johannesburg, the Very Reverend Gonville French-Beytagh, "guilty" of carrying out humanitarian acts of giving money to families of political prisoners and detainees. In Pietermaritzburg the trial of 14 Unity Movement members drags on but the overwhelming evidence of how the accused were tortured whilst in detention clearly shows that the wrong people are in that dock. But the most shocking news of all to come out of South Africa during this time has been of the mysterious circumstances that caused school teacher Ahmed Timol to fall to his death from the barricaded top-floor window of that house of horror, the John Vorster Police Square in Johannesburg. A fellow detainee of his, Mohammed Essop, was seen lying on a hospital bed, under police guard, with wounds all over his body and all attempts by his parents to visit him have been frustrated by the security police. As reported elsewhere in this issue dozens of other detainees in the Orange Free State have suffered similarly and six from that group are appearing in a Bloemfontein regional court and accused of furthering the aims of PAC by planning "to import arms into South Africa with the intention of overthrowing the white minority regime and setting up a black Republic" (reports the Zambia Mail, 10/9/71). It is these victims of apartheid who deserve world sympathy and support and not the smooth tongued apologists for the Fascist regime. Apartheid is an affront to all mankind and must be fought through to the end.

P.A.C. WERE HOSTILE TO US

- S.A. white politicians

Johannesburg.-The underground Party inside Azania is happy to learn that the External Mission continues to toe the correct line on the Pan Africanist Congress' attitude towards the politics of collaboration with settler domination. When the leader of the Progressive Party, Colin Elgin, arrived back from a tour of independent African states he told a press conference that they were welcomed everywhere except for by the "exiles of the Pan Africanist Congress" who were critical of him and Mrs Helen Suzman, M.P.

In a statement signed by the deputy Secretary for Publicity and Information, Elias L. Ntloedibe, the Pan Africanist Congress warned Africa that the South African Progressive Party, which is largely financed by the gold and diamond mining magnate, Harry Oppenheimer, "represents merchant democracy" and that its spokesmen "were smiling friends in the enemy camp".

The P.A.C. stressed that the struggle in South Africa is not simply one of removing racial discrimination but a life and death struggle to overhaul the entire system of capitalism which gave birth to the present conditions of racial as well as economic discrimination against the African majority.

Colin Elgin also told the press conference that he had come back convinced that if the South African Government were to make adjustments and start treating all South Africa's people "with dignity" they could "throw open the door to dialogue". P.A.C. maintains that so-called dialogue with racists is unacceptable whether it is proposed by Vorster himself or by liberals.

SUMMIT URGED TO INCREASE AID

Mogadishu.-The summit conference of East and Central African States which sat in Mogadishu, Somalia, last October, was urged by the Pan Africanist Congress to "heed the often repeated freedom fighters' appeal for increased material assistance for the just struggle against foreign domination". In their submission the P.A.C. delegates, Acting President P.K. Leballo and deputy Secretary for Publicity E. L. Ntloedibe, stated that a favourable climate already exists in South Africa to carry out operations of armed struggle (Daily Nation, Nairobi, 18/10/71).

The delegation attended at the invitation of the government of the Democratic Republic of Somalia and stayed on to attend the celebrations of the country's Second Anniversary of Revolution.

Raising P.A.C. army (Cont.)

Welkom, under the local apartheid authority. The suspicion that at the same time they were actively engaged in underground resistance work against the very system of apartheid (the alternative formal charge says they "planned to overthrow the Government of the Republic") is more than a slap in the face for the regime.

As a result the Welkom detainees, including the six brought to trial, have been given the full treatment by security police interrogators. This means that since last May these men have been subjected to the kind of brutality, beatings and torture which have led many to commit suicide, and for which South African police have become internationally notorious.

Selective reporting

In this case, as has happened in hundreds of other P.A.C. cases in the past, the atrocities of the South African police have not been exposed to the full glare of international public opinion. The international press is selective in its coverage of Azanian resistance news, they choose to report only the news on detentions and trials affecting people accused of involvement with multi-racialist organisations and not non-racialist ones.

As is well known some of the support committees and movements abroad are also guilty of the same sectarian approach to the Azanian national liberation struggle. For instance the inhuman detention without trial of Mangaliso Sobukwe for six years, after he finished a three year stretch for leading the Sharpeville anti-pass campaign, as well as his subsequent house arrest, have not been given the coverage they deserve.

The Sharpeville events themselves are treated like a staging of Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark, as if the events dropped from the sky and had nothing to do with the P.A.C. Positive Action Campaign of March 21, 1960.

In Bloemfontein, for the present case, the prosecution has lined up dozens of witnesses. One of them told the court that Sechaba Lebenya (28), one of the accused, addressed a meeting at his house and told them: "We should try hard to collect money for a Liberation Army and get new members. Tomorrow and the day after tomorrow we shall be the rulers of this country. This Liberation Army is to be launched by the P.A.C. With the money collected we shall be able to send young men abroad to undergo military training and they will then be able to free us after fighting White soldiers of the Republic" (East African Standard, 9/9/71).

The other accused in the trial are: J. Malfi Coetzee (26); Fred
(turn to page 6)

PAC trial in Bloemfontein (Cont.)

Letema (32); Ditsebe J. Mekhoe (24); Matsabo J. Ramoshaba (39); and Mahlomano J. Maleme (42).

At the time of going to press the trial was still continuing. Meanwhile, Amnesty International in London is the only group that has mentioned the trial in its monthly newsletter so far.

CHINA'S ADMISSION TO U.N. MEANSDIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR S.A.

- Johannesburg "Star"

The overwhelming vote of the United Nation's General Assembly to expel the Chiang Kai Shek bandit clique's usurpers from the world body and restore China's seat to the legitimate representatives of the Chinese people from Peking has driven deep fear into the South African racist regime. The Johannesburg Star, the country's leading daily newspaper, said the vote was a "warning of dire consequences for South Africa" at the United Nations.

The Star, on October 26, the day the vote was taken, said China "is widely expected to bring powerful pressure to bear on South Africa's beleaguered position in the world body". The paper also said the expulsion of the Chiang Kai Shek clique "is seen by some diplomats as creating a dangerous precedent for South Africa and other nations." This fear was echoed by the US representative George Bush who commented that the expulsion would expose the UN in future times to attempts to "rail-road" other members out of the United Nations "as soon as a majority of members decide that such and such a member does not truly represent its people or that some other group represents them better".

China for tougher action

The Star is resigned to an even bleaker future for the South African apartheid regime at the United Nations, in the same report it is said: "In any event, there is wide agreement that when Red China enters the UN it will adopt a highly belligerent attitude towards South Africa and will have the power to whip up substantial support for tougher action against the country, not only to force the abandonment of apartheid but also to evict South Africa from South West Africa".

The paper concludes that South Africa will be forced to withdraw

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China at the United Nations (Cont.)

if the General Assembly rejected its continued membership by a simple majority.

PAC rep. for UN

David M. Sibeko, Head of the Pan Africanist Congress Mission in Europe and the Americas, will soon be making his annual visit to the United Nations Headquarters in New York, where he is also accredited to represent PAC with the UN's responsible organs. Whilst there Mr. Sibeko will call on the Chinese delegation to brief them on the current situation in Azania.

Mr. Huang Hua, China's Permanent Representative to the Security Council, worked closely with progressive liberation movements when he was Ambassador in Ghana, during President Nkrumah's time, and in Egypt, his last post before Canada.

FREEDOM FIGHTER GUERILLAS HAMPER

MINING GROUP

Johannesburg.-A South African company jointly owned by the giant Anglo-American Mining Corporation and the Johannesburg Consolidated Investments confirmed to a reporter of the Johannesburg "Star" that its prospectors have been withdrawn from some of its concession areas in the Tete district of Mozambique because of the need to safeguard them.

The areas from where the prospectors have been withdrawn are described as "the hottest" by The Star, on October 26, 1971. Guerilla activity in the Tete district, where the giant Cabora Bassa dam is being built, "has increased substantially in the past three months". Incidents have occurred close to the town of Moatize, about 20km from Tete.

The new upsurge of guerilla activity in this area has forced the Portuguese to increase their troop strength by almost half, admits the Star, and not until the guerillas have been cleared are the South African companies prepared to resume prospecting. They have already found that there are large deposits of iron and coal as well as traces of asbestos, graphite, copper-nickel, tin and chrome.

When freedom fighters of COREMO, the Mozambique liberation movement, wiped out Portuguese troops and took prisoners from around the Cabora Bassa area, earlier this year, Lisbon retaliated by ordering an embargo on Zambian goods coming through Mozambican ports.

EXTERNAL MISSION CONSULTATIVE

MEETING HELD

Dar-es-Salaam.-The External Mission of the Pan Africanist Congress held an important consultative meeting at its headquarters in Tanzania from October 9 to the 18th. Participating in the meeting were members of the National Executive Committee, the Revolutionary Command, representatives from abroad and Party cadres. Mr Potlako K. Leballo, Acting President and Chairman of the Revolutionary Command, chaired the meeting, assisted by T. M. Ntantala, deputy Chairman of the Revolutionary Command.

An intensive review of the internal situation in Azania, based on latest reports submitted by Acting Treasurer-General, Pearce L. Gqobose, and other comrades who recently arrived from the home front, was carried out. After thorough discussions important decisions were taken to meet all challenges posed by recent developments and to strengthen the role of the external mission in furthering the armed struggle along the Party's correct line of a people's war.

The consultative meeting also expressed deep solidarity with fighting brothers in Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe, particularly with those brothers from organisations that are waging struggle under the correct principles of a people's war. The decision of the Organisation of African Unity to reject dialogue with the racists in Southern Africa last June was hailed.

The meeting also expressed support for the struggles of the African-American people in the United States of America and other progressive forces in the Caribbean, North America and Europe; with the Palestinian national liberation movement; and with the heroic people of Indo-China who are in the forefront of the global struggle against U.S. imperialism and are demonstrating exemplary unity.

Japanese military revivalism was denounced and all out support was extended to the people of China, under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tsetung, and the Korean people, under the leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, who are maintaining revolutionary vigilance against the Japanese reactionaries.

The external mission is to step-up the consolidation of relations with all progressive forces in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

A Z A N I A C O M B A T S U B S C R I P T I O N S 1972

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***** NEWS BRIEFS FROM INSIDE S.A. *****

Johannesburg.-The "Rand Daily Mail" of October 29 is a massive indictment against South Africa's gestapo police. It leads with a story conveying the shock of South Africans on all sides of the colour-line over the death of Ahmed Timol on the front page and on the same page carries an editorial headed: 'This ugliness must end'. In the inside pages the "Mail" devotes the whole of page three, except for a few columns, to public demands for an independent inquiry; to the struggle of assaulted detainee M. Essop's family through the courts to gain access to him; and to other detainees who are still held by the police. The editorial says many justify the gestapo third degree methods on the grounds that "we are at war" and these detainees are enemies of the state. "But that is another matter... (it is bad enough in the first place that the Security Police should have sweeping powers; they go beyond what would be considered safe for democracy in any normal Western democracy". The centre spread is dominated by the horrifying record of the mysterious deaths of detainees, including an article on Imam Haron, who died last year whilst held for allegedly furthering the aims of PAC.

Cape Town.-Stanley Uys, the South African political commentator for the Johannesburg Sunday Times and correspondent of the London Observer and Guardian says in a dispatch to the Observer (31:10:71) Vorster's security police are "a law unto themselves".

Caprivi Strip.-It was too late for Vorster to pull back his words after he told a congress of his National Party that his security forces had crossed from here into Zambia in pursuit of guerillas who killed a police captain and wounded four of other fascist police. The announcement was met with resounding condemnation all over the world and at the UN the Zambian Ambassador, Mr. Vernon Mwanga, accused the South African racists of "pursuing invisible freedom fighters whom they assumed had entered the Caprivi Strip in the United Nations Territory of Namibia through Zambia" using helicopters and river boats.

Cape Town.-The Johannesburg "Star" of October 26 says Al Venter, a United Party provincial councillor, has called on the Vorster regime to recruit "coloureds" (people of mixed blood) into the army to fight African nationalist guerillas.

Johannesburg.-Because the do's and dont's of interracial contact in South Africa are so perplexing, often to visitors as well as local Whites, the South African Institute of Race Relations has brought out a guide on "How to keep within the Law". Part of the advice is that it is illegal to offer Blacks drinks but there is no law preventing Blacks from offering Whites drinks.

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News briefs from S.A. (Cont)

Port Elizabeth.-The British Ambassador in South Africa, Sir Arthur Snelling, has said the high state of immigration from Britain to South Africa "would change" if it became clear that this was depriving non-whites of opportunities for economic advancement and denying them a share of the National Income (Natal Mercury, October 22, 1971). Is Enoch listening?

Pretoria.-Coloured girls are now permitted to work as usherettes in South African cinemas, as long as they don't look at the screen. The ridiculous situation reminded South African columnist, Ken Smith, of Roman Britain at the time of Emperor Hadrian in 122 A.D.

Durban.-The South African "Natal Mercury" reported the decision of London's Lambeth Council to blacklist products of Cow and Gate because the company owns half the shares of a company of the same name in South Africa. Last year Lambeth spent £5,800 on Cow & Gate products and their spokesman said "If other Labour local authorities follow our lead it will hit the South African Fascist regime where it hits most - in the pocket" ("Mercury", October 22, 1971).

Johannesburg.-France's sinister role in South Africa is assuming larger proportions. Not only have the French taken over from Britain and the United States as the chief arms suppliers to the fascist regime, they are now planning to use South Africa to carry out their two-faced policies. France is supposed to be supporting North African and Arab countries in their just struggle against Israel in the Middle East, and in South East Asia the French Government has repeatedly insisted that it is opposed to the policies of the United States. But we now have it on good authority that the Mirage military plane factory they are going to build in South Africa will be free to sell these planes to Israel, thus recouping the loss suffered by France when she had to stop supplying Israel with Mirage aircraft and other war equipment, which is also manufactured in South Africa. The South African fascist regime does not need all the equipment the French sponsored war industry will be churning out and South Africa has close relations with reactionaries in South Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Korea. In view of the cuts in military aid to puppet regimes abroad by the U.S. France stands a good chance of stepping in to fill the gap, through South Africa.
